



# State of South Carolina

## Office of the Governor

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October 14, 2009

Mr. Lawrence Strickling  
Assistant Secretary for Communications and Information  
U.S. Department of Commerce  
1401 Constitution Avenue, NW  
Washington, D.C. 20230

Dear Mr. Strickling,

As you know, the National Telecommunications and Information Administration (NTIA) requested that we provide NTIA with feedback on the many South Carolina-specific Broadband Technology Opportunity Program (BTOP) applications that have been submitted for consideration. In this letter, we list several projects that we believe will address South Carolina's unmet broadband needs and advance our state's social and economic development objectives.

In an effort to ensure the grant review process was conducted with an appropriate level of diligence and expertise, the Governor created the Broadband Advisory Committee to review and prioritize the grant applications. The Committee met on three separate occasions to discuss the merits of over 90 applications, receive comments from applicants and communications professionals, and select the applications that, in their opinion, best fit NTIA's grant criteria and South Carolina's needs. The applications that the Committee recommended are listed below.

### Sustainable Broadband Adoption

For sustainable adoption projects, the Committee gave priority to, among other criteria, applications that address broadband adoption on a statewide basis.

**SC State Museum Foundation – SC State Museum Distance Learning Initiative**

**SC Department of Corrections – SC Telemedicine & e-Health Program**

**Connected Nation – Connect SC**

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Public Computer Center

For public computer center projects, the Committee gave priority to, among other criteria, applications from entities that have an established base in their community, a track record of providing similar services, and address multiple areas of the State.

**SC State Library – Smart State SC Project**

**SC Department of Consumer Affairs - South Carolina eFinancial Education Network (SCeFEN)**

**State Board of Technical and Comprehensive Education – SC REACH FOR SUCCESS – PCC**

Broadband Infrastructure

For broadband infrastructure projects, the Committee gave priority to, among other criteria, service providers that have an established base in the community, a track record of providing similar services, and funds available to support the project apart from the federal dollars.

**FTC Diversified Services, Inc. – Next Generation Broadband (4 Applications)**

**Mid-Carolina Electric Cooperative, Inc. – Western South Carolina Remote Rural Economic Development Initiative**

**Community Connect, Inc. – Community Connect Wireless Broadband Public/Private Partnership for Rural Upstate SC**

**Knight Sky Consulting and Associates, LLC – SKYMAX Broadband Public Safety Satellite Network**

**City of Columbia – Capital Community Broadband Services Infrastructure Project**

**Nu Vu Communications, LLC – Cherokee County, SC Last Mile Broadband**

We believe the Broadband Advisory Committee's recommendations reflect the BTOP's and American Recovery and Reinvestment Act of 2009's (ARRA) goals of enhancing South Carolina's broadband and economic development capabilities. If you have any questions, or if I can be of further assistance, please do not hesitate to contact me.

Sincerely,



Mark Sanford

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